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The Passing Show.

Australia has a new joss—Joe Cook.

Cook is the Liberal joss, and the daily papers are telling what a wonderful joss he is.

There is suddenly intense interest in the name of Cook. Previous Cooks have won fame. A Captain Cook is said to have discovered Australia; a Doctor Cook claimed to have sealed Mount McKinlay, and discovered the North Pole; a Joseph Cook saved a million souls in America at the small cost of a dollar each.

But the new joss is greater than any of these other Cooks, and some Liberal newspapers are ready to swear that Captain Cook, the navigator, was a mere nonentity compared with Joe Cook, the political prevaricator.

Many Liberal voters are so educated by the press that they are ready to believe that Joe Cook is a son and heir of Captain Cook, who discovered Australia, annexed it, and at his death willed it to Joseph to revel in.

Such people assert that Joe Cook has at last come into his own, the great heritage that Captain Cook, under divine guidance, left his son and heir. Further, now that the will of Providence has been observed, things will run more smoothly than they have been doing under the usurper Andy Fisher.

Fisher was impossible as a joss. The cost of living kept going up, the Northern Territory was unprotected, labor was discontented, immigration neglected, and the maternity bonus was making thousands of unmarried women take up the burdens of motherhood.

Fisher had to be got rid of at all costs, and Cook set up in his place, because Australia felt that Fisher's loyalty was only skin deep. Despite the fact that Fisher and a crowd of Labor members grovelled very successfully at the Coronation corroboree in London, every loyal Liberal knew they were red-rag Socialists and raw Republicans.

They refused to pay a few paltry thousands towards the upkeep of the Governor-General's residence in Sydney, thus causing him to reside in Melbourne and hold levees, at homes, and réceptions for the "Melbun" elite, while Sydney's best folk were hungering and thirsting for some of the Vice-Regal cheer.

The N.S. Wales Labor party had deliberately evicted and rendered homeless the Governor-General because Fisher would not pay the rent of his Sydney establishment, and had it not been for the hospitality of the Liberals of Melbourne, he might have had to sleep in Sydney Domain along with the unemployed.

By this act of the Labor Party a slight, an insult, a degradation, had been put upon King George through his representative, the Governor-General. Australia's fair name had also been besmirched, her credit injured, and her loyal and patriotic sons emaciated with grief and fasting.

The loyal, patriotic, and grief-stricken Liberals of Sydney, in their indignation, protested in vain against this outrage, and at last, driven to desperation, subscribed to test the action in the law courts.

When the case was heard, and a patriotic Judge pronounced the Labor party's action illegal, there was universal rejoicing. Congratulatory letters and telegrams were showered upon the evicted Governor-General. The "citizen's" committee felicitated itself, and the press published triumphant leaders on the subject.

The joy, however, was short-lived. The Labor evictors appealed to the High Court, and the appeal was upheld. Did you ever know the like?

Now the loyal, liberal, and patriotic citizens of Sydney have to collect money to take the matter to the Privy Council in England, or submit to the everlasting disgrace of seeing the Governor-General permanently residing

The Class Struggle.



THE CHAP UNDERNEATH: "The President of the Chamber of Commerce says the class war must cease—I wish he meant it."

in Melbourne, and feasting and celebrating the second and third-raters of the southern State.

The Lord Mayor of Sydney says that Sydney cannot bear the thought of such a calamity, and a leading banker named Dibbs announced that £800 was in hand towards seeing the matter through. There is plenty of money in Sydney for a just cause, and if ever there was a just cause since the wars of the Crusaders, this attempt to get the Governor-General away from Melbourne is the one.

But there is hope in the new joss. Cook may rise to the situation, though Fisher did not. Cook may establish a suitable residence for his Excellency, and save the situation. Cook is a New South Wales representative, and if he remembers the State which fondly believes in him and votes for him, he will lose no time remedying this defect in the Constitution. Should he do this it will be felt that the recent elections were not held in vain.

With Cook at the head of affairs, the conditions of all classes in society should speedily improve. Already there is a marked improvement, and there is a more hopeful turn in the columns of the daily press. The discontent which marked the Fisher regime has entirely disappeared. Market quotations have improved—silver is easier, and chaff is firmer, and the consolidated revenue is advancing by leaps and bounds, owing to the activity of Judge Heydon in the Arbitration Court.

The Judge is a fine institution. With a few more like him all other sources of revenue could be abolished. The fines inflicted upon strikers would pay all national expenses, including interest on the public debt and the expenditure on warships and ammunition.

Judge Heydon is one of the right sort. He sees his duty to society—the employers and the ruling class—and he does it faithfully. He asks himself "What is the whole duty of man?" And his conscience answers "to serve the Employers' Association and obey its commandments."

The latest achievement of the Judge in the direction of loyal and faithful service to those whom God has placed over us, has been the suppression of strikes in N.S. Wales by means of the Labor Party's Coercion Act. Previous to the advent of the Judge, armed with this weapon, the working class would persist in striking and sacrificing themselves, and the community in the most foolish manner. As the daily papers have frequently shown the workers used to lose millions of pounds annually in wages through strikes. Now, by fining strikers a matter of £10 or so, strikes are prevented, and the wages of the working class are constantly rising as is also their banking deposits.

The Judge says that small fines are no good as a preventative. They save nobody, so the fines must be substantial, like those he imposed on a hundred gas-men last week. There's a Judge for you. There's a greater Judge than Solomon in all his glory, and

he does his work for the paltry sum of £45 a week and perks. He sees his duty, and he does it. Hats off to Judge Heydon.

Other men in like positions have recognised their duty to the ruling class, but they hesitated and quibbled about performing it.

There is none of that sort of thing about our hero. He inaugurates a new style of suppression without making any bones about it. "What are the workers for?" he asks, and the reply is "to work for the minimum living wage and make profit for our class." And he calls up another 50 and tongue-bangs and trounces and fines them for their own good. Vote "yes" for more Judges like Heydon when the next Referenda comes along.

The Judge is the first of his kind, the pioneer who blazes the track of social salvation along which we all must travel. With Joe Cook making the laws, and Judge Heydon administering them there will soon be a mighty change in social conditions.

Senator Pearce, late Minister for Defence, in an affectionate farewell to the military caste, said that he had effected a gigantic revolution in society by the inauguration of the conscript system, but Joe Cook claims to have been the originator of the scheme. Pearce was only following along the lines of the great navigator and discoverer—Joe Cook.

But while Cook and Pearce have effected a military revolution, Beeby and Judge Heydon have effected an industrial one. To this unequalled feat, the Judge adds the artistic touch of convincing the workers that his system is right, and thousands of them voted for its wider adoption. The world may be searched in vain for his equal. The man who can get away with it is unequalled. If there is any gratitude in the master class Judge Heydon should retire in his old age upon a double pension. Where could they find his equal?

Why do we say "hats off to Judge Heydon?" He is the man of the hour. He is teaching labor a valuable and salutary lesson. He is teaching the workers that under Capitalism their province on earth is to serve the better orders, and be obedient to their masters, and perform their allotted tasks in silence and with thankful hearts. A few more fruitless strikes, with political strike-breakers about, and fines, garnishees, and lecturing by Judge Heydon, and the workers of this country will begin to know their place and the groove in which it has pleased a beneficent Capitalist God to place them.

Some person or persons unknown had doubts about the effectiveness of Judge Heydon's methods. There was just a suspicion that the fines inflicted on the gasmen, ferry-men, railwaymen, slaughtermen, and others, were not being paid. Mr. Holman was approached—N.S. Wales' new Premier—and he gave his assurance that the fines were being paid, not exactly in a lump sum, but by instalments.

The instalment or time payment system was grafted upon Beeby's Coercion Act, so that the worker could keep working, feed himself, and pay his fine, instead of going to jail, and being a burden upon the Government. Therein lay the great superiority of Beeby's Act over Wade's.

The Manly Ferry Employees have hit upon a simple plan to raise money for the payment of their fines. They propose asking their fellow unionists so help them to raise the amounts. The only difficulty about this proposal is that there are too many of their fellow unionists in the same fix, and every week sees more caught in the toils.

The Million Club, of Sydney, an association of sharp persons banded together to work the population of Sydney up to a million, is very active just now in boosting immigration, ostensibly from motives of pure disinterestedness, but really with an eye to the economic results that are sure to accrue to speculators in land values. The moving spirit in the Club is Arthur Rickard, Sydney's champion estate agent. Nuff said.

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Socialism is now making great headway in the Japanese army. The capitalists of every nation of any size at all are troubled with the knowledge that the army and navy cannot be depended on to take the side of the master class once they get a knowledge of Socialism. Get busy among the boy Conscripts in your town.

The Money Trust.

Financiers Assuming Control.

N.S.W. Government pinched. A sinister scheme.

According to the findings of the recent Money Trust Commission, capital amounting to £5,005,000,000 is controlled in America by less than a dozen men, with Rockefeller, Carnegie, Morgan, and Harriman representing the principal portion of it.

In Europe the Rothschild private banks are supposed to be supreme, but the American Trust has its tentacles deep down in the financial system of every European country, a fact which was amply demonstrated by the operations of J. P. Morgan just before his death.

If there have hitherto been two money trusts—one in America and another in Europe—present indications point to amalgamation, so that if competition has not already ceased between them, it may be expected to do so very soon, and leave but one great financial concern, against which no Government will be able to stand.

In support of the belief that competition has already ceased, there is the ominous money stringency and increasing cost of living in all countries. There is also the fact that America has found it necessary to investigate; and the state of things such investigation has brought to light; and the further facts that recent events have forced to the front in Australia.

In New South Wales we have already seen that a Labor Government has been so pinched that it could not keep its party promise to nationalise the iron industry. According to Mr. Griffith, there was no lack of inclination on the part of the Ministry to nationalise the iron industry, and we may take his word for it that if he could have got two or three millions the Steel Trust would not have been given the concessions it had received at Newcastle.

But the Government could not get the money. It was prevented by unseen hands in Europe. A stronger power than the New South Wales Government was operating to secure control of the steel industry of Australia, and the Government had to give way before it.

The iron industry having thus been carefully controlled, and the Government prevented from nationalising it, other Government operations appear to be the object of attack, and Mr. Griffith, as Minister for Works—the man who is more pledged than any other Minister to carry out the nationalisation schemes of his party—has found that he has been checked in another direction.

On the 2nd of June a deputation waited on Mr. Griffith, to ask for the immediate construction of the remainder of the North Coast railway.

The Minister replied by pointing to the enormous financial difficulties which barred the way, the principal one being that no money was available.

But he reassuringly informed the deputation that the Government saw its way out of the difficulty. It had a trump project up its sleeve, by which it could overcome every obstacle, and build ten million pounds worth of railways in three years.

"The Cabinet," he said, "was going to propose a system which would enable this to be done, if it were accepted by Parliament. He could not tell them what it was, since Parliament ought to be the first to be informed of any new and striking proposal."

But Mr. Griffith had said too much and too little, and the press, by third degree methods, gradually wormed the secret out of him, so that in a couple of days he admitted that the Government had entered into an agreement with a private company, which would kindly construct £3,000,000

worth of railways. The company was to lend the Government the money at current rates, but the company was to do the work, and, of course, control the expenditure.

By this arrangement the Government would be relieved of its job, and its function of looking after the construction of railways would be assumed by a stronger power than itself.

After some further pressure the name of this power was stated to be "Griffiths and Company, Contractors, Australia, Limited." Behind this, again, is the great English firm of Norton, Griffiths and Company, with Lord de Walden as its chairman, who is said to be the next biggest landlord to the Duke of Westminster.

Mr. Griffith was very ready to vouch for the bona-fides of the obliging company, and he said:—

"I, personally, would not have the least hesitation in entrusting it with any public work of magnitude which the Government might require carried out."

So, abandoning the Labor Platform, Mr. Griffith decided to close with the offer, and put the agreement before the Legislative Assembly as a non-party measure. He knows that such a course will drive the believers in nationalisation and State employment into hysterics, but what of that so long as he can get the measure through, with the help of the great Liberal party, which will vote for anything so long as there is private profit in it.

If Mr. Griffith succeeds in persuading Parliament to accept the company's offer, we may expect ructions in the Labor camp, because, as "The Worker" says:—

"The agreement to surrender to a combine of dividend-hunters some of the functions of Government is a violation of the Labor platform."

On the other hand, if Parliament rejects the proposal, and the company happens to be as well backed up—as the Broken Hill Proprietary was—in Europe, then we may see the Government's undertakings hung up for the want of money, while the financial trust laughs at its impotency to resist the starving process.

What the rank and file of the Labor Party do not know is that even a Labor Government cannot construct public works without money; that to obtain money it has to borrow from the money-lenders, who have formed a combine, and are now in a position to withhold supplies from Governments. The ordinary Laborite does not know that money can be "cornered" as easily as other things, and he demands that industries shall be nationalised, which the money trust is determined shall not be.

The Laborite does not know that a few men operating from New York and London can upset all the schemes of the great Australian Labor Party, can spit on its platform, and make its Governments dance to any tune it cares to call.

The Ministers, who know what they are up against, dare not let their blind followers know the truth. They dare not let it be known that the sacred platform cannot be carried out; that industries cannot be nationalised, because unkind and cunning financiers will not lend them the money to do it with.

If the politicians who work the Labor movement were to tell their supporters that they are powerless against the money trust, and that the sacred planks of their platform were not worth the paper they were written on, their occupation would be gone, for, in that case, the workers would commence to study Socialist economics, with a view to joining the international movement, which is destined to overthrow the system that is crushing them.

To keep the game alive the Labor leader must pretend that the Government machine is infallible, and impossible to be defeated. He may be compelled to give concessions to a Steel Trust, a Railway Construction Combine, and a few other odd concerns of a like character, but hope is still kept alive by promises that never can be kept.

"When a man mockingly asked Diogenes how it came to pass that philosophers were the followers of rich men, and not rich men of philosophers?" he answered soberly, "Because the one sort knew what they had need of, and the other did not."—Bacon: Advancement of Learning.

A few Socialists cannot carry Socialism. All they can do is to ring the bell to call the wits together.

It would make an interesting study for Mr. Knibbs, to calculate how many hours the Australian workers have to work each year to pay interest to English, German, and American capitalists, who have invested money in Australia?

"The 5,000,000 men of this nation—Austria—able to work could produce, in a rightly directed society, with the present mechanical appliances, that which is required to support in ease and comfort, and even in luxury, the 22,000,000 inhabitants of Austria, were the 5,000,000 men to work but two hours and 12 minutes per day for only two months of the year.

Behold, what time could be spared for

Socialism Inevitable.

Present Tendencies.

The Capitalist system self-destructive.
(By H. J. Cruickshank.)

Comrade Wilson and myself have been accused of dogmatically declaring that Socialism is inevitable. This we affirm without, however, the dogmatism. This accusation comes from an unexpected quarter—from Comrade Menzies, who is pleased to accept the appellation of "Marxian Socialist," which appellation Comrade Wilson and myself also graciously accept. We claim, however, in opposition to Comrade Menzies that it is the vital character, the essence of the Marxian system, to depict Capitalism as a historical relative system of production, now tending to imminent dissolution; and, furthermore, that the system of production which is to replace Capitalism can be seen developing within the present system.

In this cursory rejoinder I have but two points to make, and they are these:—(1) Anyone questioning the inevitability of Socialism is not a Marxist; and (2) that Socialism is inevitable. The first I will prove conclusively by quotations from the world's leading Marxists, Revisionists, and anti-Marxists:—

"The outstanding feature of Marx's doctrine, the distinction which has made it the intellectual backbone of Socialism the world over, is his conception of Capitalism as the necessary forerunner, the unwilling servant of Socialism."—O. K. Skelton, Prize Anti-Socialist Essay, U.S.A.

"In 1848 Karl Marx and his friend, Engels, presented to the world a theory of evolution . . . and that in the future the economic conditions will be such as to necessitate inevitably a Socialistic organisation of society."—Ely.

"Marx held a particular view concerning the period of history in which we are now living—that is to say, the age of Capitalism, and that this view tried to show the justification of Socialism. He showed it in two ways. In the first place, he attempted to prove that the present capitalist system, by virtue of its inherent qualities, contains within itself the germs of its own decay, and in the second place that, as the capitalist system decays, it creates the necessary conditions for the birth of a Socialist society."—Werner Sombart.

"If we are Collectivists . . . if we believe these things, I say it is because modern production, transformed by steam and mechanics, and forces born of man's science and genius, not only permits, but demands, the new social order."—Guesde.

"That is why Marx has never based upon this (a moral application of the Ricardian value theory, showing the exploitation of the working class.—H.J.C.) his communist conclusions, but rather upon the necessary overthrow which is developing itself under our eyes every day of the Capitalist system of production."—Engels.

"One does not reach Communism, nor return to it, by Spartan abnegation or Christian resignation. It can be—still more, it must be, and it will be—the consequence of the dissolution of our Capitalist Society."—Labriola.

"And from the Master himself I quote the famous passage, written about 1865, which anticipated correctly so much, is being substantiated more and more daily, and which only in one detail has proven tardy:—

"As soon as this process of transformation has sufficiently decomposed, the old society, from top to bottom, as soon as the laborers are turned into proletarians, their means of labor into capital, as soon as the capitalist mode of production stands on its own feet, then the further socialisation of labor and further transformation of the land and other means of production into socially exploited, and therefore common means of production, as well as the expropriation of private proprietors, takes a new form. That which is to be expropriated is no longer the laborer working for himself, but the capitalist exploiting many laborers. This expropriation is accomplished by the action of the immanent laws of capitalistic production itself, by the centralisation of capital. One capitalist always kills many. Hand in hand with this centralisation, or this expropriation of many capitalists by few, develop on an ever-extending scale the co-operative form of the labor process, the conscious technical application of science, the methodical cultivation of the soil, the transformation of the instruments of labor into instruments of labor, only unable in common, the economising of all means of production by their use as the means of production of combined socialized labor, the entanglement of all peoples in the world's market, and this, the international character of the capitalistic regime. Along with the constantly diminishing number of the magnates of capital, who usurp and monopolise all advantages of this process of transformation, grows the mass of misery, oppression, slavery, degradation, exploitation; but with this, too, grows the revolt of the working class, a class always increasing in numbers, and disciplined, united, organized by the very mechanism of the process of capitalist production itself. The monopoly of capital becomes a fetter upon the mode of production which has sprung up and flourished along with and under it. Centralisation of the means of production and socialisation of labor at last reach a point where they become incompatible with their capitalist integument. This integument is burst asunder. The knell of capitalist private property sounds. The expropriators are expropriated."—Capital, Vol. I., pages 836-7.

These quotations prove our contention, but should the jackdaw divest himself of the peacock's feathers, can he refute the following:—

"The mode of production and distribution determine, amongst others, the property relations existing in that society. The handicraft system, which is the predecessor of Capitalism, was a system of production based upon the labor of individuals working upon, generally, their own raw materials with diminutive implements, of such value as to permit the user to own his own tools. Production was then an individual act throughout, and if the product left the artisan's hands it seldom went beyond the confines of the village in which it was produced. From this followed, as a natural result, the private ownership of the instruments of production and individual appropriation of products. Each social system appearing has its roots far down in its predecessor: so it is with Capitalism. Owing to the inventiveness of man, impressed chiefly upon the technique of the productive forces, these productive forces have discarded their individual character and assumed their present mighty proportions, which demand the co-operative effort of many workers. Production is now a social act, and products have the world for their market. We retain, but only as an anachronism, individual ownership and individual appropriation. The productive forces rebel against these fetters, which rebellion is expressed through the medium of crises and industrial depressions. Within the perceivable future we cannot revert to the old form of production, and lose all the advantages which the prevailing method carries, and yet the present situation presents a contradiction which can only be solved by social ownership of the social instruments of production. Eventually the property relations will conform to the exigencies of production. From the productive process arise the various classes which have characterised the different historical societies, and who wage war upon each other till an oppressed class wins. This dominant class engenders in its own bosom by the very conditions of its existence another oppressed class, which challenges its supremacy. Capitalism has but two classes (small farmers and petty artisans are a perverted survival of a past mode of production), capitalists owning the main-springs of production, and proletarians possessing nothing but their labor-power by the sale of which they live. Classes justify their existence by their usefulness. It was the mission of the capitalist class to accumulate and concentrate capital. This task has been performed, and they now only retain their position by virtue of their acquired momentum. The capitalist class are now, or rapidly becoming, as moribund as the feudal nobility. The proletarians, the useful class, wage war upon the capitalist class. The proletariat's interests lie in progression: the capitalist class interests lie in stagnancy or retrogression. The condition for the existence of classes, a meagre supply of wealth, has disappeared. The proletarian's fight for their own emancipation. Their emancipation means the emancipation of all humanity. They fight for a classless society, and will succeed, because the conditions demand it. A classless society necessitates the suppression of private ownership of capital.

"One of the essentials of capitalism is competition. Advantages in competition are mainly due to the cheap production and sale of commodities. Cheap production of commodities is brought about by large-scale production. It is therefore inherent in the system of production that capital should concentrate. The amount of capital necessary to launch out in enterprise constantly becomes larger. The return on capital becomes smaller and smaller. This, however, is compensated by more capital being employed, and the mass of profits is not thereby derogatorily affected. This process, however, precludes small capitals from operating. The concentration of capital was predicted by Marx, and is easily seen in progress in any capitalist country. When, in the battle of competition, one capitalist worsted the other, the defeated competitor generally lost his capital, and the other gained to this extent. This was centralisation of capital. The appearance of the corporation but slightly retarded this process of centralisation. The process went on within the corporation itself, big fish swallowing small fish. Concentrated capital calls for collective ownership to its effective man-

study and pleasures, while the cares of life, in so far as wealth is concerned, would be obliterated"

PROFESSOR HERTZKA.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY. BRISBANE BRANCH MANIFESTO.

No intelligent member of the working class is satisfied with his or her position in society. The lives of the workers are made up of worry, anxiety, insecurity, and hardships. There is the monotonous grind of uninteresting work, the constant pinching to make ends meet, and the continual necessity of learning to do without things.

At one time there was a possibility of a workman who pinched and scraped for years rising into the ranks of the employers. Every year it is becoming more and more difficult to rise out of the rank of the wage-workers.

Great changes are taking place in the methods of production in Australia: improved and expensive machinery and larger factories are the order of the day. These improved methods have made it impossible for the workers to enter the ranks of industrial capitalists.

Although Australia has only just entered the manufacturing stage, class distinctions are becoming ever clearer, the gap between the classes ever wider. Society here, as in other countries, is divided into two classes—the class which does the work, the working class, and the class which works the workers—the capitalist class. The working class produce the wealth, but do not own it when produced; the capitalists own all the wealth produced, but take less and less part in its production. In most instances the capitalists today do no useful work. They are an unnecessary class, as all the necessary work of the world is done by men and women who work for wages. Not only is the method different by which these two classes get their livelihood, but their modes of life are different. Most of the good things of life are denied the working classes: things of inferior quality are specially prepared for their use. The workers have to be content with inferior clothes, inferior food, inferior drink, inferior homes, etc., while the capitalist can secure the best of everything.

The lives of the working class are absolutely dependent on the wishes and whims of the capitalist class. It is only by working for the capitalists that workers can secure a living: for all the means of producing wealth—the mines, factories, workshops, and all the machinery of production are in the hands of the capitalists.

It is on the ownership of these things that the power of the capitalists depends. They are supreme in the sphere of production because they own those things which are necessary for doing the work of society. The workman, on the other hand, possesses only one necessary thing—his ability to work, his power to labor, his labor power. It is this labor power which makes him necessary to the capitalists, for it is the only creative force in the sphere of production. Labor power creates all value. It also creates a value greater than the price which has to be paid for it. The difference between the value created by this labor power and the price paid for it constitutes a surplus which remains in the hands of the capitalist. This constitutes his profit, and the securing of this profit is the one aim and object of all capitalist undertakings. The workman, thus, is compelled to work for another; he sells his labor power in order to live. As this labor power resides in his bones, muscles, sinews, and brain he is in fact selling himself to his employer for a number of hours a day. He is a slave, a wage-slave, and the wages he receives are evidence of his slavery. The amount of the worker's wage is not decided by the amount of wealth which he creates, but by the amount of things which are necessary to keep him in good working order. The wages of the workers are just sufficient to obtain the necessary food, clothing, shelter, and comfort for himself and his family. Every invention or improved method of production binds the workers more securely to these conditions. Less labor is required, and therefore the ranks of the unemployed are constantly growing. The existence of this unemployed army prevents the workers from permanently raising their wages above the subsistence level. It is true that up to a few years ago, more especially in Queensland and Western Australia, gold diggers and other miners were often able to earn a living considerably above this level. But "working men's fields" where reefs are shallow and easily worked have practically disappeared, and large mining companies now own and control the mineral wealth of the continent. The independent digger is disappearing, and the miner who works for wages is taking his place. In Australia, as in the older countries, all means of escape from wage slavery have been cut off. Thus we see that the wage-worker remains a wage-worker for life. The individual workman can no longer improve his own conditions. His conditions are the conditions of his class.

Machinery is becoming more complex, invention is following on invention, and the power of the owners of machinery is growing in proportion. The smaller capitalists are being crushed out because they cannot compete against the more efficient methods of the larger capitalists. They are forced into the ranks of the wage-earners. The number of the wage-workers is thus constantly increasing, and the capitalist class is constantly diminishing. The class which is interested in the continuation of the present system is constantly becoming less. The interests of the bulk of the people demand a complete change in the present form of society.

No greater improvement can take place in the conditions of the workers as long as capitalism lasts. As long as the wages system continues, part of the wealth which the workers create will

be kept back from them. The share which is withheld from the workers is the larger share, and as machinery increases and improves, this share will grow larger. The worker is getting a smaller and smaller share of the wealth which he creates. The wage system with its continual anxiety, poverty, and degradation for the working class will continue as long as one class own and control the things necessary for the production of wealth. The ownership of these things by the capitalists is the means of robbing and oppressing the workers, and therefore in the interests of the workers, the ownership of all the means of production must be taken out of the hands of the capitalist class. These things must be made the common property of the workers themselves, and must be controlled by them.

To help to bring this about is the object of the Australasian Socialist Party. The A.S.P. therefore advocates the organisation of the workers, both on the political and industrial field for the purpose of taking control of the means of production.

There exists in Australia a Labor Party, which is often considered a working class party. The majority of its supporters are drawn from the workers, but this party is fast losing any working class spirit it ever possessed. It has never understood the make up of capitalist society. The Labor Party thought that all that was necessary was to get into power and administer the various departments of the State. This party has been in power in three of the States, and in the Commonwealth, and no noticeable improvement has taken place in the conditions of the workers. It has administered the various departments very economically and efficiently in the interests of the class for whom these departments exist. Every Government department was called into being by some need of the capitalist class, and by continuing to administer these departments Labor Ministers are serving the interests of the owning class. This Labor Party has curtailed the workers' right to strike, the solidarity of the workers has been destroyed by Wages Boards and Arbitration Courts; the workers of one trade find themselves tied down by the awards for a certain length of time, and thus they are not free to support or back up other unions in industrial disputes. By the Commonwealth Defence Act a force has been created which can, and will, be used to defeat the workers in their wage wars. Sons of the working class are being compelled to train to defend the property of the capitalists. Jingoism is fostered and race prejudice encouraged. Other races are regarded with animosity and hatred, and thus the workers are split up into hostile groups. The solidarity of the working class is ruthlessly sacrificed to the cultivation of an "Australian national sentiment." This sentiment with the famous catch cry, "Support Australian industry," reflects with great clearness the interests of the Australian manufacturers. The industrial capitalists are being aided at the expense of working class solidarity. The Labor Party is no longer a working class party; it is the party of the rising Australian manufacturers. Proof of this is to be found in their various Bounties Acts, their Manufacturers' Encouragement Act, their Australian Industries Preservation Act, etc. This party cannot, and will not, free the workers; the workers must free themselves.

It is only by united efforts that the workers can free themselves. The A.S.P. therefore calls upon the workers of Australia to consider their position and to join with their fellows of the A.S.P. in the work of freeing themselves. This can only be brought about by the overthrow of the capitalist system, and the substitution of the socialist society founded on the common ownership and control of all the means of production.

The Australian Socialist Party is not a political party in the sense that other parties are. It is in politics for the purpose of wresting out of the hands of the capitalist class the power which is used to oppress and rob the workers. It is also in politics for the purpose of re-organising society. It has to transform the state from a means of oppressing the workers into a means of administering the common property of the whole people. It is not in politics to administer the affairs of the capitalists, it has no reform to advocate. No reform nor series of reforms can ever secure freedom for the workers. Our one demand is abolition of wage-slavery. Our task is the organisation of the new society—the society of industrial and social freedom. It is for that object that we call upon the Australian working class to organise both on the political and industrial field. The future belongs to the workers. Prepare for that future now by joining the working class organisation—the A.S.P.

To sum up:—

- (1). The worker's position in society is unsatisfactory: his life is at the mercy of another.
 - (2). It is daily becoming more difficult to rise out of the ranks of the wage workers.
 - (3). The numbers of the wage workers are being continually increased by the crushing out of the little capitalist by the larger ones.
 - (4). An impassable gulf separates workers from capitalists.
 - (5). The ownership of the machinery of production is the source of the capitalist's power.
 - (6). Nothing short of a complete change of the ownership of these things can alter the worker's sad condition.
 - (7). Reforms are of no avail because they do not go to the root of the trouble.
 - (8). The Labor Party after 20 years political activity, is proving itself a dismal failure, because it does not realise the nature of the problem, and also because it has become the instrument of a section of the capitalist class.
 - (9). A Socialist party is necessary because such a party alone understands the causes of the failure of capitalism, and therefore understands the line of action necessary to emancipate the workers.
- Fellow workers the cause is worthy, the struggle has begun, take your part and victory will be assured.

"Co-operation and Co-partnership."

Extremes Meet.

Tom Mann and the Syndicalists adopt the principle.

In a shilling book, "Co-operation and Co-partnership" ("The Worker" Trade Union Print, Sydney), Frank E. Pulsford serviceably directs attention to the value of the co-operative principle, and its growing extent in the United Kingdom and on the Continent of Europe.

The author shows that at the end of 1911 there were 1407 Retail Co-operative Stores in the United Kingdom, with a shareholder membership of no less than 2,640,000. These stores, the shareholders of which are almost entirely wage-earners, control a capital of £41,000,000. They have an annual turnover of £75,000,000. After putting aside £97,000 for the advancement of education among their members, and voting nearly £54,000 to various charities, they were able, in 1911, to return to their members as dividends on purchases close upon £12,000,000. They own £25,000,000 worth of land, buildings, and machinery. Their employees number 90,000.

The original Rochdale Store was a room in a back street. Its turnover, at first, was £2 per week, its business hours two nights weekly, its officials and servants all honorary—a weakling, indeed, to attempt the task of reversing the movement's hitherto almost unbroken tradition of failure. More than once the business inexperience of its members, their mutual suspicions, their party and personal disputes, brought it to the verge of dissolution. The society may be said to have "staggered through its early years." Not till 1857 could it appoint a paid shopman. But in 1888 its figures were:—

Members	11,223
Capital	£339,937
Profits	£46,729
Education Vote	£816

Its classes had 469 students, and its library 14,600 volumes.

After tracing the marvellous development of the Stores, the writer says: "It is safe to conclude that the members of Co-operative Stores are, for the most part, heads of families, and if we provide for exceptions by taking the average family at three, instead of the usual estimate of four, we get the total number of co-operators included in the population of Great Britain as about ten million, or nearly one-fourth of the entire population of the Kingdom."

After detailing the growth of the retail and wholesale business in various countries, the writer has something to say of interest to Socialists, and what he says resembles a good deal what is said by Tom Mann and some other European Syndicalists. He describes co-operation as "the way of social salvation," and some of the Italian Syndicalists have said much the same after using the principle successfully against the Bottle-blowers' Trust of Italy.

The author strongly emphasises the advisability of Trades Unionists and Socialists adopting co-operation, not as a mere means of saving a few pounds, but as a means of developing the constructive and directive ability necessary to the management and maintenance of industrial undertakings. Of the development of this ability in Britain he says:—

"A recent investigation in England has shown that the wage-earning classes have among them a larger supply of that great necessity of the more difficult types of industry—directive ability—than has been generally supposed. The investigation was made by the Professor of Economics of the University of Manchester and the Warden of Liverpool University Settlement. It showed that 80 per cent. of those directors and managers of Manchester textile establishments who were willing to give information, had started life as operatives or clerks—at the bottom of the ladder. In another town 60 per cent. of the heads of manufacturing businesses were found to have come from the wage-earning classes. In another—a spinning district—this was found to be true of 13 per cent. of managing directors, 42 per cent. of mill managers, and 67 per cent. of assistant managers. The wage-earning classes, then, are continually producing among them men of high directive ability."

And suddenly in the heavens there appeared a great and glorious star, and the people, in wonder and amazement, said to the wise men, "What name givest thou this star?" And the wise men answered them by saying, "Tis the star of Socialism."

Said Christ: "I come not to bring peace, but a sword." Christ evidently recognised the class war.

Devil-chasers and coin-snatchers: Members of the Salvation Army.

A. ST. CLAIR.

agement. Centralised capital will facilitate the process of expropriation.

"The laborer under capitalism sells his labor-power to the capitalist, and his wages are invariably of smaller value than his product. This surplus, placed at the disposal of the capitalist, is used to look after his cherished self, pay taxes, extend his operations, and the remaining—not an insignificant—portion is continually threatening the existence of capitalism. The workers, not being in a position to buy back their product, and the capitalists not finding an effective demand, production is slackened, and men lacking the necessities of life walk the streets idle, because too much has been produced. This is temporarily solved by an extension of the markets, but the problem then assumes larger and more menacing proportions. The culmination of capitalism means its collapse.

"All this points the way to the collapse of Capitalism and the appearance of Socialism. Needless to say, Socialism will not be brought about of itself. It requires the

conscious effort of men, and Capitalism produces this class, who are demolishing the present system. The proletariat bring with them their own ideology. Their ideology is but a reflex of the mode of production in which they are the all-important participants. The mode of production is social: their ideology is Socialism.

THINGS THAT ARE TRUE.

"But Socialism will destroy the marriage tie," cries the young man of the Y.M.C.A. Lord, save us! He wouldn't think so if his mother would only let him go for a walk after dark.

Going to the devil is often more pleasant than going to a charitable institution for a feed.

Things that amuse us: The Salvation Army trying to frighten the devil by banging the big drum.

All the diamonds of the world cannot outshine the star of Socialism.

Not death do we fear, but life itself—the sordid struggle for an existence.

If thou, O Lord, hearest the prayers of thy people, deliver us, then, from the bondage of Capitalism.

A sight to make the gods weep: The working class applauding Labor Party politicians.

"Death before dishonor!" cries the virtuous woman. Yet the same woman thinks nothing of working all the years of her life in some sweat shop or factory.

Women and wine have ruined many a man, but Capitalism damns them all.

Physical, moral, and mental wreckers: Diseased prostitutes and bourgeois politicians.

What do the working class want? Sense—common sense.

"We stand in the interest of all classes," says the Labor politician. Yet some Laborites get real wild when Socialists point out that the Labor Party is not a working-class party.

SQUALOR.

On the horizon transformations glow,
That innovate the rosiness of day;
Outlined are those who bent to bondage go,
Whose warped conceptions form a world of grey.

The factory is yawning for its prey,
Re-folding scarves and shawls against the cold,
Oblivious to rejoicing Nature's lay,
They hasten when the starting bell is tolled.

Malignant soot-specks thicken in their eyes,
Tumultuous engines clang in their dull ears—
Enslaved till rebels with the Forch arise,
And splendour in a shining dawn appears.

In the last issue of the "International Socialist" was an article on the Workman's Home. Will you publish some further particulars about this institution that are not generally known? The Army is trying to raise £1600 on the strength of maintaining 500 beds for the poor. The only "shelter" is a cell 10 feet by 15 feet, with a concrete floor, a bench that 8 men can lie on, and a partitioned lavatory that is horribly offensive. About 50 men sleep in this cell, the majority of whom are old, ill, or mentally deficient. Two banners were hung there inscribed "Come ye disconsolate," and "When he spent all that he had famine." The disconsolate, enraged at this display of modern Christianity, burnt these banners.

Nothing else is free. The food is cheap in quality, not in price. The standard menu is as follows: ½ pint of soup, ½ d.; meat and vegetables, 2d. (two inferior sausages); ½ pint of tea or coffee, ½ d.; pudding, 1d. A meal costs 5d., and is not approachable to the meal of an ordinary sixpenny restaurant. Most of the food is provided to the Army free. The beds are 4d. and 6d., and are secured early, as there is no sleeping accommodation in Sydney for the homeless. The Salvation Army is charitable only to itself, and is really a bait for cheap labor. The Council could erect a genuine Workman's Home if the Councillors were Socialists, and provide better banquets for the Reserve Army.

ANON.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

THE AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Rules and Constitution.

1. Name.

The name of the organisation shall be the Australasian Socialist Party.

2. How Constituted.

The Party shall be composed of such Socialist bodies in Australia and New Zealand as shall accept the objects, statement of principles, and policy of the A.S.P. and pay a capitation fee of one shilling per financial member per annum.

3. Headquarters.

The headquarters of the Party shall be such place as the Annual Conference shall fix upon.

4. Officers.

The officers of the Party shall consist of a General Secretary, General Treasurer, and two Trustees, all of whom shall be elected by a vote of the Party, which shall take place one month before the Annual Conference, the ballot to be counted at the Conference.

5. National Executive.

The National Executive shall consist of the General Secretary, General Treasurer, and representatives appointed on the ratio of Conference representation by each affiliated Branch upon the termination of the Annual Conference, and such representatives shall sit (unless they resign or are recalled) until the subsequent Annual Conference. The members of the National Executive shall report regularly to their organization, and the Executive itself shall make a yearly report to the Conference.

6. Administrative Council.

The General Secretary, General Treasurer, and National Executive members resident at headquarters shall constitute an Administrative Council, and shall meet not less than once a fortnight. Its decisions—other than upon urgent and formal matters—shall be referred to the members of the National Executive for approval or otherwise, and all its decisions shall be subject to review. The Administrative Council shall make a quarterly report to Branches.

7. Annual Conference.

A Conference of Branches shall be held in 11th month of April in each year, at a place determined upon by previous Conference.

Business for Conference shall be called for by the Administrative Council in January of each year, and must be in the hands of the Council not later than the last day of February, and furnished to affiliated Branches within a fortnight from that date.

The Conference shall consist of General Secretary, General Treasurer (neither of whom shall be eligible to vote), and Delegates from each affiliated organisation upon the following basis: Up to 50 members, 1 delegate; over 50 members and up to 100 members, 2 delegates; over 100 members and up to 150 members, 3 delegates. On all Conference business that has been submitted to Branches previous to Conference, each delegate shall have a card vote equal to the number of members he or she represents for which sustentation fees have been paid.

Where more than one delegate represents a branch the voting shall be equally divided between them.

On business introduced by delegates at Conference each delegate shall have one vote. Alternate or proxy delegates may be appointed by Branches. Decisions of Conference shall be final, but any decision of Conference may be challenged within six weeks by any two branches, and a referendum of the membership of the Party demanded. All decisions shall remain in force until amended or rescinded upon notice to Annual Conference.

8. Referendum.

Upon a Referendum being demanded the Administrative Council shall supply the requisite

papers to each Branch within one month, and each Branch shall be allowed to count its own ballot prior to forwarding papers to Administrative Council within one month from date of ballot, the Council to notify result of ballot within one week from receipt of papers.

9. Special Conference.

A Special Conference may be convened upon the demand of two or more Branches to deal with urgent business. The Administrative Council shall submit the matter to members of the National Executive, who shall refer the same into their respective Branches, and the Branches shall decide whether the business to be dealt with justifies the calling of a Special Conference.

10. Membership.

A member shall belong to any Branch and membership cards shall be interchangeable with minimum subscription of 1s. per month for males and 6d. per month for females; applicants for membership in any Branch shall sign a declaration endorsing the principles and policy of the A.S.P., and their special application shall be subject to the approval of a general meeting of the Branch concerned. No member shall belong to any other Political organisation, but this provision shall not debar membership for purely industrial purposes in Trades Unions which are primarily industrial. Any member shall have the right to speak at the meeting of any Branch, but shall only exercise voting power at the Branch of which he or she is a member. No member shall be enrolled for more than one Branch. No member shall vote on Principles and Policy under the age of 18 years.

11. Branches.

Branches shall be self-governing within the provisions of the A.S.P. Constitution and Rules, Principles, and Policy. Branches of the A.S.P. may be formed by not less than six persons who accept the principles and policy of the A.S.P. by making application to the Administrative Council and receiving endorsement.

12. Expulsion of Members.

Any officer or member of the A.S.P., believing that any member has been guilty of a breach of the Rules or Principles or Policy of the Party, shall have power to move that the said member be called upon to show cause to the executive of the Branch, to which such member belongs, why he or she should not be expelled or otherwise penalised. The Branch Executive shall appoint a date for the hearing of the charge, of which at least 14 days' notice shall be given to such member, and if satisfied that the charge has been proved, and if it is of sufficient gravity, the Branch may fine, suspend, or expel such member from membership. Any member so fined, suspended, or expelled, shall have the right to claim that the papers in connection with the case shall be sent on to the National Executive, who shall finally hear and determine such case.

Any member expelled from the A.S.P. shall not again be admitted to membership except at the discretion of the National Executive or Annual Conference.

13. Expulsion of Branches.

Any two branches of the A.S.P., believing that another Branch has been guilty of a breach of the Rules, Principles, and Policy of the A.S.P., shall have power to move that such Branch be called upon to show cause to the National Executive why its charter should not be cancelled. Any Branch so challenged shall be given 28 days' notice of the hearing of such charges, which shall be submitted to the Branches by the National Executive, and in the event of the decision of the Branches upholding the charge the said Branch shall be expelled by the National Executive. Any Branch so expelled from the A.S.P. shall not be again admitted except at the discretion of the National Executive or Annual Conference.

14. Dues.

Branches shall pay 1s. per financial member per year as sustentation fee, and as affiliation with the International Socialist Bureau, the same to be paid by purchasing stamps at 1s. 1d. per dozen from the Administrative Council. At the end of each year Branches shall return unsold stamps, and shall be credited with same.

15. Arrears.

Any Branch in arrears shall forfeit its right to representation on Annual Conference and National Executive, but a Branch shall not be considered unfinancial if its non-payment of dues arises of lack of employment of its membership through strikes, lock-outs, and other unavoidable causes.

16. Official Newspapers and Pamphlets.

"The International Socialist" shall be the central and official organ of the A.S.P. Any newspaper or pamphlet published by Branches must be submitted to the Administrative Council, who shall endorse such papers or pamphlets if they are in accordance with the Principles and Policy of the A.S.P. In the event of such newspapers or pamphlets being rejected by the Administrative Council, the Branch concerned shall have the right to appeal to the National Executive.

In the event of a paper issued by any Branch violating the Principles and Policy of the A.S.P., the charter issued to such Branch shall be immediately cancelled by the National Executive, and the method of determining such charge shall be that provided in Rule 12.

17. Banking Account.

A Banking account shall be opened in the names of the two Trustees, Treasurer, and Secretary, three of whose signatures shall be required for all cheques, and all accounts in connection with the Party shall be paid by cheque.

18. Emergency Questions.

When questions arise such as the Federal Referenda, on which Conference has not pronounced, the Executive shall, after the National Executive members have been instructed by their respective Branches declare the attitude of the A.S.P. in connection therewith in accordance with the decision of the majority of the Branches. Such pronouncement shall be faithfully concurred by the Party Branches, Members, and Press, and shall be subject to review at the following Conference.

(The Principles and Policy will appear in next issue.)

SYDNEY.

A most successful meeting was held last Friday evening at the corner of Campbell and George streets by Comrades Sims, Gordon, and Slade, with Comrade Hilder as literature seller.

A large and attentive audience listened for two hours and a half to the message of emancipations delivered by the speakers, and at the end of the meeting some interesting questions were asked and answered with satisfaction by Comrade Slade. The

meeting resulted in a record sale of papers for a Friday's meeting.

On Saturday night Comrades Slade, Sims, Reece, and Ivor Jones held the fort until forced to abdicate by a downpour of rain, which lasted right through the evening.

Despite the pouring rain and flooded ground, a wonderfully successful combined meeting was held by the Free Speech League, the Australasian Socialist Party, and the I.W.W. in the Domain on Sunday afternoon.

The meeting was under the chairmanship of the I.W.W., with trenchant speeches by Mr. Taylor (Free Speech League) and Comrade Jones, A.S.P., in criticism of the suppression of free speech by the closing of halls to rationalist and revolutionary bodies on Sunday nights.

The following motion was carried unanimously—"That this meeting demands, and will do all in its power to secure, freedom of speech by the opening of public halls on Sunday nights."

A collection of 12s. 3½d. was taken up for the purpose of securing a hall for Sunday lectures.

Comrades Sims, Gordon, and Slade were the speakers in Park-street on Sunday evening.

An intensely interested audience listened to the speeches of Comrades Roche and Jones in Market-street, and despite the constant showers of rain, remained right through the meeting from 7.30 till 10.

The attendance at the debating class on Tuesday nights at 274 Pitt-street continues to increase. A very interesting debate took place last Tuesday on "Anarchism." The subject for next debate is "Communism." Comrade Sims will open the debate by affirming that Communism is the next stage of society, and Comrade Roche will oppose.

The membership of the branch continues to increase. Every Socialist should get in touch with the party, and so help to lighten the task of those who are at present bearing the brunt of battle. You are assured of a hearty welcome, and a place on the roll of fame when your task has been accomplished and Capitalism overthrown.

The next business will be held in Queen's Hall, Pitt-street, on Thursday, July 10, at 8 p.m.

Comrade O. Blanc will deliver a lecture at the Queen's Hall, Pitt-St., on Thursday, July 17, at 8 p.m. Admission free—collection.

CECIL WHITMORE.

Secretary.

MELBOURNE BRANCH, A.S.P.

Owing to the bitter cold, no meetings were held on Friday evening. Nevertheless, all the speakers were at their post on the Yarra when Sunday came round, and all ably acquitted themselves. Mrs. Nicholson and Miss Hulbert attended to the collection, which was fairly large.

Saturday's dance boasted another increase in attendance, all who were present voting it one of the most enjoyable evenings, R. Arons acting as M.C.

On Sunday evening Mrs. McDonald lectured at the branch headquarters, her subject being "The Fraud Christianity." Our comrade, although handicapped by a severe cold, ably handled the case for freethought. At the close there was some excellent discussion.

On Thursday the economic class met for the second time. The attendance was good, and many prominent propagandists and students of economics were present. H. J. Cruickshank read an excellent paper on "Value," and there was the usual bright and breezy discussion. Next week Comrade Taylor will deliver a paper on "Money," and the following week a stranger, who was present, and who is taking an interest in Socialist economics, has promised to read a paper on the class struggle. All Socialists, unattached, and trades unionists into whose hands this paper finds its way weekly are cordially invited to attend same.

All financial members are requested to not that the half-yearly meeting of the branch will be held at headquarters on July 10th, when the half-yearly financial statement and progress report will be submitted, and officers appointed for the ensuing six months. Other important matters affecting the welfare of the branch will also be discussed, therefore let every member make a note of the date, "and attend."

J. R. WILSON, Secretary.

ROCKHAMPTON.

Our little branch is well in the firing line here at Rockhampton, and by the way the dingoes howl at our meetings we have started the revolution right enough. Our first meetings were simply uproar and pandemonium let loose. Then, as the political chloroform oozed out of their brains, one or two came to our side, and now we are fairly well treated by the crowd. The meetings at the bank corner are said to be the most lively ever held in this city for years. We have some good talent here. Comrade Jackson, one of our open-air speakers, is quite the equal of Grant or Wilson, and the way both he and Comrade Thompson open the eyes of the wage-slaves is the talk of the

town. The Labor rag, the "Record," will not publish anything but abuse of our movement, but the Liberal rag, "Bulletin," gives a fair go to us. I enclose one each of Comrades Thompson's and Jackson's letters, which the "Bulletin" published, and you will see the trend of things here. Thompson and Jackson speak at Mount Morgan on Friday night by request of the men there, and we expect a pretty lively go, as hitherto the crowd will not let anyone but the Labor men speak in the open air. At the last election they turned both Liberal meetings into confusion, in spite of police assistance. But Thompson and Jackson have broken through all their organised attempts to upset our propaganda work. At the last open-air meeting we sold 22 pamphlets, and gave away the old copies of the "International." One man wanted to fight anyone we liked to bring along. He is one of the tame, docile, well-trained, draught-horse-like, craft unionists who go into hysterics over being called organised scabs. Two others talked of bringing the push, and leaving Thompson and Jackson for dead, as "they said our comrades were paid by the Liberals" to smash up the Labor Party. Such is the state of mind of these poor, deluded wage-slaves. The propaganda work Comrades Rilev and Denford started here three years ago shows up now and then in very unlikely places. Rees and Martin left for Mackay a few weeks back. Rees and an American comrade are walking overland, holding meetings amongst the railway navvies as they go through the North Coast line camps. Taken on the whole, it is very probable our comrades will form very strong branches in the central district. The unemployed are prominent here, but are not a militant body. Four club members have come forward and assisted the meetings. Several good comrades of the German Socialist Party are farming at Mount Larcombe, and will join later.

G. THOMPSON

(For Rockhampton Branch).

BARRIER.

A new departure as far as the Barrier branch of the A.S.P. is concerned was definitely decided upon and launched on 1st June, a tactic which has given consternation to many respectable Laborites locally. With a mingling of fear and hostility they express their antagonism in spiced epithets and adjectives, for the citadel of ignorance obsessing their minds is to be subjected to a new process towards dislodgement, the ammunition of education being hurled out by a new weapon termed political action in the form of the candidature of two Socialists for the Sturt and Willyama districts in the State electorate. M. P. Connelley and A. G. Brown are the respective candidates, both well known on the local industrial field, and whose entrance into the political arena was acclaimed by the local Plute press with a howl of rage and "How dare you" attitude, and a wail of advice as nonsensical and illogical as the beat of a punctured drum is musical. This organ of crocodile tears and sham, known amongst the militants as the "Barrier Whiner," with a sense of humor somewhere on the level with the small boy who delights to inflate an elastic bladder with his breath and puncture it with a pin, thereby reducing its size to mere nothingness, for the said "Whiner" sported to the public gaze on a recent morning, with much waste of good ink and possible mental agony in its leader column, two unpoetical myths of its own origination, termed respectively "A Socialist-Laborite" and "Laborite-Socialist," after dragging them through a column and a half of ink, contrasting their characteristics and peculiar function, is ended up by turning iconoclast upon its own delusion, and advised the workers to have nothing to do with either.

A committee, composed of the following: P. Lamb, J. J. O'Reilly, W. Lewis, W. R. Beezley, H. S. Wood, was chosen to conduct the campaign. These comrades congregated, when J. J. O'Reilly was appointed to the chair, and H. S. Wood as the secretary.

H. SPENCER WOOD,
Secretary, Election Committee.

LEICHHARDT-ANNANDALE.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, Jones and Young addressed a fair audience on Sat. night.

NOMINATIONS.

Branches are requested to note that nominations for Officers will not close until Sat. July 19.—H. L. DENFORD.

Press and Maintenance Fund.

Already acknowledged, £59 4s. 11d. W. L. Ballarat 3s. Total £59 7s. 11d.

International Socialist Club.

The Adjourned General meeting of Members will be held on Sunday, July 6, at 10.30 a.m.

O. BLANC.

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